

Message Text

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ACTION OES-03

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FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5191

INFO AEC GERMANTOWN

UNCLAS IAEA VIENNA 8996

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, IAEA, JA, US, UK

SUBJ: IAEA SAFEGUARDS ON JAPANESE FAST BREEDER

REACTOR FUEL

1. MISSION HAS BEEN CONTACTED BY IAEA SAFEGUARDS
INSPECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR JAPAN (WILSON, US), WHO REQUESTED
GUIDANCE FROM US REGARDING APPLICATION OF SAFEGUARDS
TO FUEL FOR JAPANESE JOYO PROTOTYPE FAST BREEDER REACTOR.

2. FUEL FOR REACTOR WILL BE MIXED URANIUM-PLUTONIUM,
AND PROBLEM IS THAT URANIUM (APPROX. 65,000 GRAMS,
CONTAINING APPROX. 15,000 GRAMS FISSILE MATERIAL) IS US-
ORIGIN WHILE PLUTONIUM (APPROX. 14,000 GRAMS CONTAINING APPROX.
11,000 GRAMS FISSILE MATERIAL) IS UK-ORIGIN.

3. PRODUCED MATERIAL FROM THIS REACTOR WOULD RAISE
REAL QUESTION AS TO ORIGIN, SINCE THERE IS NO RPT NO WAY
TO DETERMINE WHETHER SUCH PRODUCED MATERIAL ORIGINATED
THROUGH USE OF US OR UK MATERIAL. SIMILARLY, BURNUP/
DEPLETION FIGURES FOR SUPPLIED MATERIAL, IF ATTEMPT
WERE MADE TO PRO-RATE THEM BETWEEN US AND UK MATERIAL,
WOULD BE IMPRECISE.

4. IN THIS SITUATION, AGENCY PROPOSES TO KEEP SINGLE
SET OF BOOKS AND SINGLE RECORD OF ACCOUNTABILITY FOR
ALL MATERIAL, BOTH US AND UK ORIGIN, AND FOR ALL
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PRODUCED MATERIAL, IN JOYO REACTOR FACILITY. AGENCY

WOULD THUS CONCERN IT SELF ONLY WITH TOTAL QUANTITY OF VARIOUS TYPES OF MATERIAL IN THIS FACILITY, REGARDLESS OF ORIGIN OF SUPPLIED MATERIAL. WILSON STATED THAT THIS APPROACH WOULD NOT RPT NOT RAISE QUESTION FOR AGENCY OF WHETHER MATERIAL WERE SUBJECT TO US OR UK AGREEMENTS, AS BOTH WERE ESSENTIALLY SIMILAR IN EFFECT SO LONG AS MATERIAL IS IN THIS FACILITY.

5. MATTER OF WHOSE AGREEMENT WOULD APPLY IN CASE OF ULTIMATE REPROCESSING OF MATERIAL FROM THIS FACILITY, PROBABLY IN JAPAN, AT SOME POINT SEVERAL YEARS HENCE DOES, HOWEVER, REMAIN A PROBLEM. IN THIS REGARD, AGENCY WOULD PREFER TO SEE US AND UK COME TO SOME AGREEMENT THAT ALL MATERIAL ORIGINATING FROM JOYO REACTOR FACILITY, BOTH SUPPLIED AND PRODUCED AND REGARDLESS OF ORIGIN OF SUPPLIED MATERIAL, WOULD BECOME SUBJECT TO AGREEMENT OF EITHER ONE OR OTHER AT TIME OF REPROCESSING (UNLESS, THAT IS, JAPAN RATIFIED NPT AND NPT SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT) COMES INTO FORCE IN INTERIM, IN WHICH CASE MATTER IS, IN PRACTICE, MOOT).

6. WILSON STATED HE HAD NOT RPT NOT YET CONSULTED UK, ALTHOUGH HE INTENDED TO DO SO SHORTLY, AND PUT TO THEM ESSENTIALLY SAME QUESTIONS AS HE WISHED TO PUT TO US: 1) IN VIEW OF IMPRACTICABILITY OF DIFFERENTIATING US AND UK ORIGIN MATERIAL AND PRODCEED MATERIAL THEREFROM IN THIS FACILITY, WOULD US HAVE ANY OBJECTION IF AGENCY WERE TO MAINTAIN SINGLE SET OF BOOKS AND ACCOUNTABILITY RECORDS FOR ALL MATERIAL IN THIS FACILITY, REGARDLESS OF ORIGIN? 2) AT SUCH TIME AS MATERIAL LEAVES FACILITY FOR REPROCESSING, WOULD US BE WILLING TO DISCUSS MATTER FURTHER WITH AGENCY AND UK TO COME TO SOME AGREEMENT REGARDING WHICH SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT WOULD APPLY TO ALL MATERIAL THUS REPROCESSED? MISSION STATED WE WOULD PASS HIS QUERIES ALONG TO DEPT/AEC AND INFORM HIM.

7. WILSON STATED THAT MATERIAL IN QUESTION IS ALREADY IN JAPAN, AND WILL BE LOADED INTO REACTOR WITHIN NEXT FEW MONTHS. HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE SOME INDICATION OF US FEELINGS ON THIS MATTER WITHIN NEXT WEEK OR TWO
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IN ORDER TO CONSULT WITH JAPANESE WELL IN ADVANCE OF FUEL LOADING ON SAFEGUARDS TO BE APPLIED TO REACTOR.

8. REQUEST APPROPRIATE GUIDANCE FOR DISCUSSION WITH UK DEL AND RESPONSE TO AGENCY IN THIS MATTER. PORTER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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